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We U.S. army chief proposes draft

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (R). — Soviet troops are better prepared for combat than the NATO forces facing them in Western Europe, the chief of staff of the United States Army said today. Gen. Bernard Rogers also told the Senate Armed Services Committee that the U.S. might have to resume drafting men for military service. No Americans have been drafted since July 1973, the year U.S. troops finally left Vietnam. Gen. Rogers said NATO combat readiness was good, but the alliance was short of reserves of ammunition and some units were in the wrong places. He also said he was concerned how long it would take to mobilize U.S. reserves if the Soviet Union suddenly attacked West Germany.

Volume 2, Number 381

Carter may block sale of concussion bombs to Israel

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (R). — President Jimmy Carter said he was considering blocking the international sale of concussion bombs, a deadly weapon that former President Richard Nixon had promised to sell to Israel.

Addressing his first White House news conference, President Carter said he would decide next week whether or not to proceed with the sale.

Mr. Ford's promise to sell the weapons, which would ignite kerosene and kill all living beings in a 100-foot radius, had not been clear either the State or Defense Departments.

Mr. Ford said the sale of the weapons, he said, "concerns me very much." Mr. Ford had promised the weapons, to Israel last year, in the last stages of unsuccessful presidential campaign.

The State Department said today that the sale of the weapons was under review, but the ambassador Simcha Dinitz said he had been assured Carter aides that all Ford administration pledges to Israel would be honored.

Mr. Carter also moved to ease military tension in Europe by urging the Soviet Union to halt its deployment of medium-range SS-20 missiles.

Mr. Carter said the United States matched such a Soviet move by halting its own deployment of mobile, land-based missiles, and he hinted he might take further action of his own to limit nuclear weapons.

Mr. Carter said it was difficult to detect the SS-20 missiles, which carry multiple warheads and are aimed at Western Europe.

Mr. Carter called on the Soviet Union to join him in taking action, and the framework of their Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT), to scale down the nuclear arms race.

At the same time, the president said, his administration will continue to speak out against the treatment of dissidents in the Soviet Union and human rights generally.

Mr. Carter said he would make a half-hour news conference, the president played a command of detail especially on the nuclear deployment issue -- and a willingness to share his access to the information.

Mr. Carter also showed himself ready to abandon some of the accepted diplomatic conventions, revealing, for example, details of his talks this morning with the head of the Chinese mission here.

Mr. Carter said his position on human rights, including the State Department's expression of concern over the detention of Associated Press correspondent

dent in Moscow, Alexander Ginzburg, should not be interpreted as public relations attacks on the Soviet Union.

He rejected the linking of human rights with the arms limitation talks and voiced confidence that U.S. criticism of the Soviet Union would not jeopardize attempts to reduce nuclear arsenals.

The president said that in fact there had been some progress on human rights in the Soviet Union, including an increase in the number of Jews permitted to emigrate.

The Ginzburg issue gave Mr. Carter room to exercise his wit. He said he had considered expelling the Associated Press correspondent from Washington in retaliation for Moscow's expulsion of the AP man there.

Otherwise he handled the whole press conference with gravity and confidence throughout.

The president said he wanted Britain, France and China brought into the Soviet-American SALT talks at some future date.

After repeating his frequently expressed goal of trying to rid the world of nuclear arsenals, he quoted Huang Chen, head of China's diplomatic mission in Washington, as telling him today that "the goal of the Chinese people is to reduce dependence on nuclear weapons to zero."

The president, who again called on Russia to agree to a ban on nuclear tests, said he was willing to reach a SALT accord quickly.

He thought one way to spur progress would be to omit two disputed weapons systems -- the American Cruise missile and the Soviet Backfire bomber -- and return to them in later negotiations for a new agreement.

The president said the United States had a superior nuclear capability over the Soviet Union although the two countries were roughly equal in their destructive ability and in their capacity to kill 50 million to 100 million people in an attack.

Earlier President Carter had pledged his support for legislation that would bar U.S. purchases of Rhodesian chrome.

He made the promise at a White House meeting with congressional leaders, according to one of the participants, Senate Democratic Whip Alan Cranston.

The United States now imports chrome from Rhodesia in defiance of United Nations sanctions under the so-called Byrd Amendment. A move to repeal the amendment is already under way in the Senate.

Senator Cranston quoted Mr. Carter as saying: "Other administrations have offered lip service to repeal. I will do all I can to bring it about."

"We are not capable of such inhumanity," Mr. Mugabe, joint head of the nationalists' Patriotic Front, told the British Broadcasting Corporation in Maputo, Mozambique. He blamed the killings on the Selous Scouts, a crack Rhodesian army unit.

"It is horrible and deplorable in the extreme," he said, adding that guerrillas found missionaries sympathetic to them and a source of medical care.

The Rhodesian security forces said they had killed 10 guerrillas in the past 48 hours. A communiqué did not say where, but informed sources said the dead guerrillas were not thought to be connected with Sunday's mission killings.

The school closed after a bomb threat at Bonda, only 30 kms from the Mozambique frontier.



U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim answers reporters' questions shortly after his arrival at Amman airport Tuesday. With him is Prime Minister Mudar Badran. (JNA photo).

Funeral of Arab nationalist in Israel turns into protest occasion

TEL AVIV, Feb. 8 (R). — Large groups of Arab youths chanted anti-Israeli slogans at the funeral in central Israel today of Palestinian nationalist Rashid Hussein who died in a fire in New York last week.

The youths, most of whom were presumed to be Israeli nationalists, chanted "We shall fight until the black cloud of (Israeli) occupation has passed from the skies of the homeland" and "Rashid Hussein was a hero."

Mr. Hussein, a popular Arab poet, served as a spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in the United States.

His burial today in his home village of Musmus, in an Arab area, near the town of Afula, was attended by several thousand Arabs from both Israel and the occupied West Bank.

There were no clashes with Israeli troops or police. A graveside eulogy was delivered by Nazareth Mayor Tawfik Zaidy who said Mr. Hussein "had fallen in the struggle for an ideal and for his homeland."

Mr. Zaidy, a leader of Israel's mainly-Arab Rakah (Communist) Party, added: "We shall never give in until the fulfillment of the ideal supported by Rashid Hussein and his comrades. The PLO was and will be the representative of the Palestinian people."

Egypt's "leftist" party urges 'No' vote in referendum

CAIRO, Feb. 8 (R). — Egypt's leftist opposition party today called for a "no" vote in Thursday's referendum on law and order legislation proposed by President Anwar Sadat.

The Progressive Unionist Party said in a statement: "We urge the population to exercise its constitutional rights and reject the proposed law."

Last week President Sadat invoked his constitutional right and called for a nationwide vote on laws banning demonstrations and providing for tough sentences on saboteurs and rioters.

The progressive party said it opposed a "yes or no" vote on several different subjects in a single referendum. It therefore urged Egyptians to vote "no" on the entire proposed law.

But it said the party would accept the measures if the people endorsed them.

The progressive party said it supported measures to exempt small farmers and low-income groups from all taxes as well as measures against wealthy tax-evaders -- all part of President Sadat's package.

But in an apparent reference to the ban on demonstrations and strikes, the party statement said measures were set out in general terms, without enough explanation, "in the absence of which legal political activities could be risky."

President Sadat is meanwhile meeting Moslem and Christian religious leaders here in connection with the food riots last month.

The meeting is one in a series Mr. Sadat has been holding with various official organizations since the riots.

The funeral was expected to be commented upon by those Israelis who claim the country's half-million strong Arab minority is opposed to the Jewish state.

Half a dozen Israeli Arabs were killed and scores were injured during nationalist protest demonstrations motivated by the expropriation of Arab lands by the state in Israeli Arab villages, particularly in Galilee, last March.

Jaabari: Palestinians should be able to choose their representatives to the Geneva talks

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 8 (R). — The former mayor of Hebron, Sheikh Mohammed Ali Al Jaabari, said today Palestinians from Israeli-occupied areas should be represented at any possible future peace negotiations in Geneva.

Sheikh Jaabari, a Moslem Sadat hopes to meet Carter soon

CAIRO, Feb. 8 (AFP). — President Anwar Sadat says he may shortly meet President Jimmy Carter, in an interview reprinted here today.

In the interview, given to the Saudi Arabian newspaper Okaz and reprinted in the Egyptian daily Al Gomhouriya, Mr. Sadat said: "We are ready to attend such a meeting if we are invited."

"The United States is an essential factor in the settlement of the Middle East crisis," he went on to say.

He went on to say Egypt's military spending was a "great problem" at a time when the country's war being rebuilt after four successive wars.

President Sadat said plans to hold a summit in Riyadh attended by himself and Presidents Hafez Assad of Syria and Gassaf Nimeiri of Sudan next month and been scrapped.

In the interview, Mr. Sadat reiterated allegations that Communists were behind last month's riots in Egyptian cities after the government announced increases in the prices of food and other basic commodities.

President Sadat pledged that the leftwing Progressive Unionist Party would not be banned. He concluded by saying: "Communism is forbidden in our country because it is contrary to the beliefs of Egyptian society."

He says after meeting Allon

BRUSSELS, Feb. 8 (AFP). — French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud met here for over an hour today with his Israeli counterpart, Yigal Allon, to review bilateral relations, troubled when a French court last month ordered the release from custody of Palestinian guerrilla leader Abu Dawud.

There is no disagreement now between France and Israel," Mr. de Guiringaud told newsmen later. He said the talks were "extremely fruitful, cordial and frank."

The French minister announced that he planned visit to Israel had been scheduled during the meeting for March 30 and 31. Earlier today, he denied the trip had been jeopardized by the Abu Dawud affair.

The two ministers concluded in their talks that bilateral relations were "normal" and would continue to be so.

Mr. Allon confirmed after the meeting with Mr. de Guiringaud that the two sides would discuss the bilateral extradition treaty shortly in Paris. Bilateral relations, he said, should become normal, as any relations between friendly and peaceful countries.

Mr. Allon also noted that he had "never brought into question" the French legal system.

"In France and in Israel, we have democratic regimes with a separation of powers," he said. "Certain political and technical aspects of the Franco-Israeli extradition treaty should be clarified to avoid misunderstandings. This is what will be done jointly in Paris by French and Israeli experts."

Badran details Jordan's position on peace to U.N. secretary general

Total Israeli withdrawal, Palestinian rights, PLO participation at Geneva, and peace guarantees

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (Agencies). — Jordan today emphasised to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim that participation by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) at a Geneva peace conference would be a basic element in an overall Middle East settlement.

Premier Mudar Badran told newsmen he had stressed the view during a two-hour meeting with Dr. Waldheim, who arrived earlier from Lebanon.

Mr. Badran said he listed three main requirements for a just and lasting peace-complete Israeli withdrawal from lands occupied in 1967, support for Palestinian rights as stipulated in United Nations resolutions, and guarantees for all sides in a peace agreement.

Israel, the next stop in Dr. Waldheim's six-nation Middle East tour, has repeatedly declared it will have no dealings with the PLO.

Mr. Badran also told the U.N. secretary general that Jordan believes the Geneva conference should be convened at the earliest possible opportunity, preferably the date set by the United Nations.

He told Dr. Waldheim that Jordan was ready to take part in a Geneva conference as a confrontation state.

Jordan has made it clear it will not go to Geneva as the representative of the Palestinians, an idea sometimes floated by Israel.

Dr. Waldheim told newsmen his talks with Arab leaders had been beneficial and constructive.

At an earlier meeting with the press on his arrival at Amman airport, Dr. Waldheim was asked about yesterday's statement by Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon that only the good offices of the United States had any real value in the Middle East. Dr. Waldheim said it would not affect his visit to Israel, where he arrives on Thursday.

"This statement," Dr. Waldheim said, "has not changed the attitude of Israel toward the

traditionalist who was swept out of office in the last round of municipal elections told Israeli Radio that the more than one million inhabitants of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, occupied by Israel since June, 1967, should be able to choose their representatives to such talks.

Sheikh Jaabari's entourage later told Reuter that the former mayor believed such representatives should be included in a single Arab delegation.

Observers noted that it was the first time a prominent West Bank figure had accepted the principle of West Bank representation at such talks other than by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Sheikh Jaabari made no mention of the PLO in his statement today.

The idea of representation by West Bank personalities in peace talks was first brought up by Israeli officials who however oppose the single Arab delegation concept Israel would prefer that West Bank leaders be included in one of several Arab delegations, preferably that of Jordan.

The 80-year-old Sheikh has been careful in his statements not to directly criticise the PLO and he is not believed to have come under direct public criticism from the Palestinian organisation for his stance in the past.

RIYADH SUMMIT EXPECTED TOMORROW, SAUDI PAPER SAYS

RIYADH, Feb. 8 (R). — A Saudi newspaper said today that an Arab mini-summit was expected to be held in Riyadh on Thursday.

The daily Al Yom said the two-day conference would be attended by King Khaled of Saudi Arabia and Presidents Anwar Sadat, Hafez Assad and Gassaf Nimeiri of Egypt, Syria and Sudan respectively.

United Nations. My visit will contribute to overcome difficulties and clarify positions.

"I was assured before my departure that the Israelis are interested in my visit."

Before leaving Beirut, he told reporters that the Lebanese government had expressed the wish for a speedy solution to the Middle East problem, because it was plain that Lebanon's future was linked to such a solution.

BEIRUT'S DAMAGED HEART -- United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, accompanied by his delegation and Lebanese officials, visits central Beirut Tuesday. At the background is part of the damaged commercial district next to the port. (AP wire-photo).

Communism meet set for Madrid

MADRID, Feb. 8 (Agencies). — The Communist parties of France, Italy and Spain will hold a summit meeting here in two weeks, the Spanish party announced today.

A spokesman said the general secretaries of the French and Italian parties, Georges Marchais and Enrico Berlinguer, would come to Madrid at the invitation of their Spanish counterpart, Santiago Carrillo.

Meanwhile the Spanish government tonight took a major step towards legalising most political parties, but gave itself the right to refer doubtful cases -- presumably including the Communist Party -- to the Supreme Court.

A decree approved by a cabinet meeting said that political parties would no longer have to be approved by the Interior Ministry.

But they will have to sign a government register and state their aims and internal rules, and the government then will have 10 days to ask the Supreme Court to rule whether a party can be termed illegal under the penal code.

This outlaws parties that seek to set up a totalitarian regime or are subject to international discipline.

BEIRUT, Feb. 8 (AFP). — The four-party Arab committee administering the ceasefire in Lebanon has turned its attention from the collection of military equipment -- where it achieved success -- to the problem of the estimated 140,000 people displaced by the civil war.

Gen. Ali Al Shaer, Saudi Arabian representative on the committee and his country's ambassador to Lebanon, met President Elias Sarkis yesterday and today's newspapers reported they discussed the fate of the 15,000 residents of Damour, 20 km south of Beirut, forced to leave the town in January 1976.

Al Charr reported that Gen. Shaer was asked to move out all those who had settled in Damour since then to allow the original inhabitants to return.

Former President Suleiman Franjeh said the Arab deterrent force had entered Damour, at the heart of a citrus fruit-growing region, and residents could now return to inspect their properties and their crops.

According to the Phalangist radio station, Palestinians were still occupying the homes of Lebanese in the town.

U.S. Charge d'Affaires George Lane talked with Foreign Minister Fouad Boutros today about the Israeli request for the Arab League soldiers in southern Lebanon to pull back, a well-informed source said.

It was their sixth talk on the same subject since the Arab peace-keeping force, mainly Syrian, occupied the Nabatiyeh district only 15 kms from the Israeli border.

Mr. Lane and Mr. Boutros declined to make any statement after today's meeting.

According to Tel Aviv newspapers, Israel regards Syria's reply to its demand that Syrian troops pull back from southern Lebanon as unsatisfactory and tension is mounting along the Israeli-Lebanese border.

Israel had asked Syria through the United States to withdraw its troops northwards from Nabatiyeh.

Syria's reply was passed on last night when Secretary of State Cyrus Vance met Israeli Ambassador in Washington Simcha Dinitz, they reported.

Yediot Aharanot said Israel could be forced to retaliate militarily in order to back up its warnings to Syria and retain credibility.

Maariv quoted the Chief of Staff, Gen. Mordechai Gur, as saying yesterday that Syrian troops had reached the so-called "red line", the hypothetical southern limit of their advance, beyond which Israel would consider them a threat to its security.

Frangieh wants squatters out of Damour; south Lebanon worries Israel

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Soyuz-24 docks with space laboratory

MOSCOW, Feb. 8 (R). — The new Soviet spaceship Soyuz-24, launched yesterday with two cosmonauts on board docked today in earth orbit with the space laboratory Salyut-5, TASS news agency reported.

The successful docking means that the crew, mission commander Viktor Gorbachko and flight engineer Yuri Glazkov, will probably be spending a lengthy period -- weeks or months -- in space aboard the Salyut.

The space station, launched last June, has been inhabited once before -- for most of July and August of last year, after the two cosmonauts in the Soyuz-21 mission docked with it.

But last October Soyuz-23, also carrying two crew, failed to dock with the station because of a fault in its approach control mechanism. The mission was aborted and the cosmonauts brought back to earth after only two days in space.

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We drag out for slayers of Rhodesia missionaries

LISBURY, Feb. 8 (R). — Security forces hunting the killers of seven white missionaries killed today black nationalist guerrillas had attacked another mission, setting buildings on fire.

Church officials said a guerrilla bomb threat had also forced a mission school for 300 pupils in another part of Rhodesia to close.

No casualties were reported in the attack on Myashanu mission in southeast Rhodesia, where a communist said guerrillas took \$4,000 in cash and set fire to an office and orphanage yesterday.

Security forces continued a manhunt for the guerrillas who are blamed in Salisbury on Sunday's attack on St. John's Catholic Mission, 56

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Brace yourself, America

Something extraordinary happened this week. The United States of America -- leader of the free world, pillar of NATO, guardian of democracy, and gatekeeper of the heavenly expanses of personal liberty and equal justice for all people -- rejected, yes, rejected, an Israeli request to sell Israeli-made jet fighters to Ecuador.

Not only has the U.S. turned down an Israeli request (an act on the magnitude of a mother turning its babe away from its bosom), but it has also made it known that it is "reviewing" the promise of former President Ford to supply Israel with a collection of sophisticated new weapons.

The American people do not know it, but their government is making history this week. They will know it soon enough, though. The Israeli lobby in Washington is not expected to stay silent for very long in the face of this display of rash American impudence towards Israel. In fact, the odds are that the new American government, sooner or later, but probably sooner, will start taking policy decisions about the Middle East whose major characteristic will be a combination of short-sighted imbecility and long-term catastrophe. The relationship between Washington and Tel Aviv is such that the Israelis will necessarily force the Americans into doing something outrageously absurd. This is because the Israelis have put themselves in a position where their survival depends on unlimited American military credits, economic aid and diplomatic lunacy. The U.S. provides all three with uncanny regularity, partly because of volition, but mostly because of the masterful and severe influence exerted in Washington by pro-Israeli forces. Thus for the U.S. to deny Israel a request, as it has denied it permission to sell American-engineered Israeli planes to Ecuador, is nothing less than an act of unheard of defiance on the part of the Americans. Will the Israelis put up with it? Probably not.

On top of this, though, comes the announcement by the State Department that the U.S. is reviewing the promise to give Israel some new and very sophisticated weapons (the better to kill Arabs with, which, presumably, the Israelis have convinced the Americans is the best way to spread democracy in the Middle East?). The American defiance of Israel is thus doubled, and so we can expect the Israeli reaction, like the American winter, to be blistering in its severity and blanketing in its scope.

The Americans have always admired the image of Israel as the little David fighting the Arab Goliath. There may now be some surprise in the United States to find that, when it comes to Israeli military and economic requests, the Americans are the helpless Goliath. They had better brace themselves for the attack that their little pal David will now launch. Babes turned away from the bosom are desperate and ferocious little beasts, and the Americans will now find that they will have to do something quickly to quiet down the monster they have created.



'Moths!'

The Christian Science Monitor

Jerusalem Post: Israel may accept Syrian presence in south Lebanon in return for permanent accord

By Bernard Edinger

TEL AVIV Feb 8, (R). — The Jerusalem Post, which frequently reflects government thinking, yesterday suggested Syrian forces could remain in south Lebanon in exchange for a permanent agreement in the area.

The English-language daily attributed the idea to an "informed observer" here. It said he had suggested a three-way agreement by Israel, Lebanon and Syria under which Arab forces could be stationed at various distances from the Israeli border.

Israel denounced the arrival of Syrian forces near the south Lebanon town of Nabatieh last month as a "violation of its own 'red line' concept." The Post's informant, however, said Israel might be persuaded to accept an agreement limiting Arab forces in south Lebanon,

which would in effect accept a limited Syrian presence in the region.

Officials here, questioned about the newspaper's front-page report, said Israel had no new proposals on the issue and still wanted the Syrians to leave the area. It was not clear from which level of government the suggestions of an agreement emanated.

Nabatieh is 11 kms. from Israel and reliable sources in south Lebanon last week put the total of Syrian troops in the region at 500, a figure only marginally lower than Israeli estimates.

But Israeli spokesmen said their presence "created a grave precedent and could be exploited in future hostilities to create a new front" on the Israel-Lebanon border.

Negotiations are generally believed to be under way -- through U.S. diplomatic channels -- between Israel and Syria on the question.

The Jerusalem Post informant said the matter could be solved on a long-term basis

if a system of supervision for maintaining "red line" limitations was established. A three-nation committee could be formed to work on information received from a control body, which could be headed by the United States, the report said.

In this way, Israel might find acceptable an agreement limiting Arab forces in south Lebanon, which in effect would accept a limited Syrian presence there.

"This would leave the Syrians closer to the border than they were a month ago. However, Israel might tolerate this on the principle that a military deployment based on mutual agreement creates a less threatening situation than deployments made on a unilateral basis which can easily be understood in a hostile perspective," the Post said.

The newspaper alleged that all major Syrian troop movements southwards during the Lebanese civil war were passed on to Israel in advance by Syria through U.S. channels. This has never been offi-

cially confirmed here but was widely believed to have been the case.

Defence Minister Shimon Peres told newsmen yesterday about the Lebanese border situation: "Beyond our relations with Syria and Lebanon, the (main) question is that of Israeli relations with the new U.S. administration. We have to act carefully as we want to start off on a good footing with the U.S." He did not amplify.

The handling of the Nabatieh issue by the Israeli government has started to meet criticism here from both the press and public.

The independent daily Yediot Aharonot yesterday said: "Every additional day that passes without the Syrians moving from Nabatieh detracts from our credibility, both in the eyes of the Arabs and also in those of the Americans -- a thing which is likely to cost us dearly, because they can see that it is possible to play 'cat and mouse' with us regarding our warnings and our red line."

U.S. State Department official expects decision-making under Vance to be more team-work than anything Kissinger would have had

The Christian Science Monitor News Service

By Daniel Southerland

WASHINGTON, D.C. — An official with an important job at the State Department says he sees signs that he and his colleagues are going to be having more of a say in decisions made under the new Secretary of State, Cyrus R. Vance, than they had under Mr. Vance's predecessor, Dr. Henry A. Kissinger.

Critics of Dr. Kissinger's tendencies to reach decisions in league with only a small group of hand-picked assistants and to withhold vital information from the lower levels of the bureaucracy, the official described the Kissinger style as "all too imperial, all too arrogant."

He said that in contrast with this style, Mr. Vance and the new team he's brought into the State Department have been asking questions and seeking advice from the bureaucracy they have taken over.

"Before they would have put you on hold and played music," he said.

Not everyone is happy, of course. As Mr. Vance brings in his new appointees, some people are being demoted and

in the view of some officials, a few of the shifts have been unnecessarily abrupt and even brutal.

But Mr. Vance seems to have set the right tone for many of the career officers with a letter of greeting which he sent them this week.

In it, he stated that he would "rely heavily" on their knowledge and talents and would make pertinent information available to them to the fullest extent possible. The letter contained a word of encouragement for personal initiative, saying that it should not be penalized.

Many of the career officers believe that some of the biggest mistakes of the Kissinger era -- Cyprus and Angola being examples -- could have been avoided had experienced officers dealing directly with those problems been listened to.

Similarly, they believe that the shock which the United States administered to the Japanese through its suddenly announced opening to China might have been avoided had the bureaucracy been cut in and allowed discreetly to give Japan some advance warning.

If anything worries some career officers, it is not the cautious style of Mr. Vance, but what they consider to be simplistic stress by President Carter on human rights in foreign policy and overly sweeping statements made by the president on arms control.

They refer in particular to the president's inaugural address, in which he vowed to move this year a step toward the "elimination of all nuclear weapons from this earth."

"That," said one State Department official concerned with military affairs, "is pie in the sky."

Concerning the new stress on morality and human rights, the same official said: "Some of us may be a little too bureaucratic in our thinking but we're a little concerned that the emphasis on morality and human rights is unrealistic."

"It's easy to talk in generalities when it comes to morality and arms sales, for instance. But it gets difficult when you get down to concrete cases. We've got a lot of interests we've got to balance."

Another criticism, coming from officials who worked well with Dr. Kissinger and who admired his broad view of the world is that Mr. Vance and

many of his appointees more "operators" than men. They may lack the "optimalise."

Carter choose admiral for CIA position

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8

— President Jimmy Carter chose today to head the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Admiral Stansfield Turner, whose Mr. Carter when he was a naval officer for 30 years ago.

The president first met Mr. Turner in 1947 when he was one of the most sensitive in the American government but the former side of the President John Kennedy drew because of opposition to the U.S. Senate.

Admiral Turner, 54-year commander of NATO forces in southern Europe, never met Mr. Carter at the navy in Annapolis where a CIA director-designate was asked of Brigade Command Mr. Carter, who gave promising naval career to turn to his father's business and became governor of Georgia before running for president, stood a respectable 59th in the same of 820 cadets.

"He was so far ahead of us we weren't even jealous of him," Mr. Carter was quoted as saying.

The admiral got in with his classmate when Carter was at the governor's mansion in Atlanta, Mr. C asked him to send naval military affairs and the men have corresponded since.

During his navy career, Admiral Turner commanded a destroyer, a gate, held a sea command Vietnam during the Indo war and was in charge of rier task force in the Med in 1970 and 1971.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

All three Jordanian dailies Tuesday commented on U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's peace-seeking mission aimed at reconvening the Geneva Middle East conference.

AL RA'I, assessing Dr. Waldheim's visit to the Arab countries, says that reactions from these quarters have been positive, unlike those expected in Israel. That country, the paper says, is reluctant to receive a representative of international legitimacy, since, like Rhodesia or South Africa, it does not like to be confronted by right or duty with morals.

Israel's reluctance to apply U.N. resolutions 242 and 338 depends on future U.S. policy in the region, not that Israel will accept the U.S. solution if it contradicts its interests, the paper adds.

This Israeli position is intended to create a calculated imbalance in the regional and international power alignment, which has made the convening of the Geneva conference possible. This imbalance will neutralise the Soviet Union and leave the U.S. sole master of the region.

This signifies the need to search for new ways to replace Geneva, the paper says, and this might take a few more years and allow Israel to keep the occupied territories during that time.

AL SHA'B, under the heading "Realities facing Dr. Waldheim", draws the U.N. Secretary General's attention to the fact that if the Geneva conference is to succeed in its peace mission, it is not sufficient to be sure, as Dr. Waldheim is, that the chances of reconvening the conference are good.

To ensure its success, the paper says, all parties concerned should announce their willingness to abide by, respect and implement U.N. resolutions; in particular 242 and 338, a condition which the Arabs have so far accepted, but on which Israel has remained silent.

Israel is requested, the paper adds, to declare its readiness to respect U.N. resolutions and all international decisions, which were instrumental in the convening of the Geneva conference in December 1973. Otherwise, the conference will remain a mirage and an illusion, and we shall once again find ourselves in the vicious circle from which we have been unable to liberate ourselves since 1948.

AL DUSTOUR, commenting on Dr. Waldheim's attempt to reconvene the Geneva Middle East conference, says that it would be more profitable for Dr. Waldheim to spend his efforts convincing the U.S. to withhold its military, political and economic support from Israel, instead of launching his peace-seeking mission, which is limited only to a resumption of the Geneva conference.

The international community has reached as to the kind of solution it wants in the area, and Israel alone cannot oppose the implementation of the U.N. resolutions unless the U.S. does not want them to be implemented. The U.S., which has paralysed any moves by the international body through its vetoes, is the only country which can enable that body to assume its international responsibilities properly.

Dr. Waldheim should have gone to the source of the problem, which is Washington. This would have been more useful than his present trip, the paper concludes.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

RADIO JORDAN

(On 886 KHZ)

7:00 Morning melodies	15:00 Concert hour
7:30 News	16:00 Old favourites
7:40 News reports	16:30 Easy listening
8:00 Sign off	17:00 Play of the week
12:00 Pop session	17:30 Pop session
13:00 News summary	18:00 News summary
13:05 Pop session	18:05 Pop session
14:00 News	18:30 Science report
14:10 Radio magazine	19:00 News
14:30 Music made easy	19:10 News report
14:45 15 weekly	19:30 Sign off

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:	8:30 Arabic series
6:00 Quran	9:20 Reportage
6:05 Cartoons	
6:30 Agricultural programme	7:30 News in Hebrew
7:00 Lucy show	7:45 Varieties
8:00 News in Arabic	8:30 Doctor in charge
Channel 2:	9:10 The Pallisers
7:30 Sports programme	10:00 News in English
	10:15 Mystery movie

EMERGENCIES

Doctors: University (44554)
Ashab (23238)

Amman: Nitham Nather
Hamed Khairi (25556)

Irbid: Ghazzawi

Said Dahmash

Zarqa: Al Aqsa
Saleh

Nashrat Amnari

Pharmacies: Amman: Jerusalem (39655)
Shamsani (21523)
Neel (44433)
Jerusalem (21370)

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:

8:25 Muscat, Doha	8:00 Beirut
8:25 Dubai, (Alitalia)	8:00 Aqaba
8:45 Karachi, Abu Dhabi	
9:15 Jeddah	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
9:50 Amman	9:05 Rome (Alitalia)
10:30 Beirut	10:50 Athens, Amsterdam (KLM)
14:15 Athens (GA)	11:00 Vienna, Copenhagen
14:20 Jeddah (SDI)	
16:30 Aleppo, Damascus	11:15 Damascus, Aleppo
17:15 Larnaca (CUI)	12:00 London
17:55 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva	12:30 Cairo
19:00 Cairo	15:00 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)
19:40 Beirut (MEA)	15:25 Riyadh, Dhahran (SDI)
19:50 London (BA)	18:00 Larnaca (CUI)
21:25 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (Lufthansa)	18:55 Kuwait, Dhahran
	20:00 Baghdad
	20:35 Rawalpindi (BA)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 78111
Civil defence rescue	" 24381-4
Fire headquarters	" 22000
First aid, fire, police	" 19
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	" 36381-3
Municipal water services (emergency)	" 37111-3
Police headquarters	" 38141
Najdah, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 21111, 87777

Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 41230
British Council	" 36147-8
French Cultural Centre	" 37000
Goethe Institute	" 41903
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 42003
Amman Municipal Library	" 36111

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT 03:00 to 06:00	The Breakfast Show : 03:00, 04:00, 05:00 and 06:00	18:00 Special English. New Feature : Space & Man. News Summary
06:30	GMT : News, Regional and Topical Reports; VOA Current News Summary.	18:30 Music USA (Standard News Roundup, Report Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary)
08:30, 04:30 and 05:30	GMT : An informal presentation of popular music with feature reports and interviews, answers to listeners' questions, to listeners' questions, to listeners' questions.	19:30 VOA Magazine. American news, Science, Culture, Letters.
17:00	17:30	20:00 Special English. New Feature : Space & Man. News Summary
		21:00 VOA World Report
		21:15 Music USA (Jazz)
		21:30 News ... newsmen's reports ... background features ... in dia comments ... analyses.

BBC RADIO

GMT 05:00	World News; 24 hours	14:30 Cancer
05:30	Sarah Ward	15:00 Radio Newsworld
05:45	The World Today	15:15 Outlook
06:00	News; Press Review	16:00 News; Commentary
06:30	Terry Wogan's LP Show	16:15 Just a Minute
07:00	News; 24 hours	16:45 The World Today
07:30	Sarah Ward	17:00 News
07:45	Report on Religion	17:09 Discovery
08:00	News	17:40 Book Choice
08:15	Youth by Joseph Conrad	17:45 Sports Round-up
08:30	John Peel	18:00 News; Radio Newsworld
09:00	News; Press Review	18:30 Top Twenty
09:30	Financial News	19:00 Outlook : News Summary
09:45	Paperback	19:40 Stock Market Report
10:00	Talkabout	19:45 Dances of Old Vienna
10:30	Command Performance	20:00 News; 24 hours
11:00	News	20:20 David Gell's Music
11:15	Business and Industry	21:00 Report on Religion
11:30	Radio Newsworld	21:15 International Soccer Special
12:15	David Gell's Music	22:00 News; The World Today
12:45	Sports Round-up	22:25 Financial News
13:00	News; 24 hours	22:45 Sports Round-up
13:30	World Radio Club	23:00 News; Commentary
13:45	A Jolly Good Show	

هكذا صحت القتل

European Broadcasting Union opens 4-day meet in Aqaba

BA (JNA). — The Minister of Information, Mr. Adnan Abu Odeh, opened the news exchange conference of the European Broadcasting Union here Tuesday.

Addressing information media delegations from Europe, America, Mr. Abu Odeh said that this was the

first time that such a meeting had been held in Jordan. Jordan Television, he said, is an effective member in the European Broadcasting Union, of which Jordan is a full member. Naturally, the news media is one of the most interesting elements in the information field, but it also requires the most active efforts.

"We are happy to see more cooperation between Jordan Television and other members of the European Broadcasting Union. We, on our part, are determined to make every possible effort to develop the transmission and dissemination of news with truthfulness, objectivity and clearness," Mr. Abu Odeh said.

Replying to the minister's speech, the chairman of the European Broadcasting Union expressed the Union's appreciation of the members of Jordan Television, who organized the conference, and of the role Jordan Television is playing in the fields of news exchange and reporting current events.

During its four-day meeting, the conference will discuss, among other things, the questions of news exchanges among Union members, the establishment of a storage bank for illustrated news, the use of satellites in news coverage and news exchanges with other unions.

KING HUSSEIN MEETS WITH BROADCASTING UNION TEAM

BA (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday met with members of the news team of the European Broadcasting Union holding its mid-year meeting in Aqaba.

In his speech on the Middle East situation, His Majesty said Jordan is doing its best to bring about a just and lasting peace in this part of the world and that Jordan's involvement in the Palestinian question is inevitable. Jordan has sacrificed a lot to continue to work diligently until the Palestinians regain rights.

The King continued to say that if Israel continues its policy of spreading peace efforts, it will not only bring destruction on but on the whole region. Jordan will attend the Geneva peace conference as a constructive state, and if peace is to be achieved, the Palestinians will play a constructive role at that conference. As for the time place and any other relevant matters, the opportunity is ripe for consultations in order to get to know the opinions of all, the added.

NATIONAL NOTES

AMMAN. — The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ibrahim, Tuesday received the Egyptian ambassador to Jordan.

AMMAN. — The French government has provided the Royal Institute Society with three grants for studies in solar power for documentation, it was announced Tuesday.

AMMAN. — The Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Mr. Ghazal, Tuesday received the Egyptian ambassador to Jordan discussed with him bilateral cooperation in the tourism field.

AMMAN. — The Ministry of Communications Tuesday issued commemorative stamp on the occasion of the centennial of the telephone link-up.

AMMAN. — The Industrial Development Bank Tuesday approved JD 584,000 in industrial loans to establish a factory producing bags for cement and feedstuff, and another for prefabricated houses, as well as to open a quarry in the Karak Governorate.

AMMAN. — The Ministry of Public Works will invite tenders for the new four lane Ain Ghazal - Al Hussein Youth City road to end of February. The project will cost JD 800,000.

AMMAN. — Minister of Health Mohammad Al Bashir Wednesday paid a visit to Mafraq's hospital and inspected the services rendered to the town's citizens. He also met the doctors and discussed with them the possibility of developing and expanding the hospital's services.



Chairman Adnan Abu Odeh, Jordan's Information Minister, addresses Tuesday's opening session of the European Broadcasting Union conference in Aqaba. (JNA photo).

Contract awarded for master plan of new Yarmouk University

IRBID (JNA). — The Royal Commission for Yarmouk University has awarded the contract for the preparation of a master plan of the university to a Japanese consultative company in participation with a local consultant.

The university President, Dr. Adnan Badran, said the Japanese firm will submit the plan within nine months. It will include a complete plan defining the location of the university, the nature of the college buildings, academic departments, hospital, sports city, student and staff residence installations and cultural and social facilities. Relief maps of the whole construction scheme will also be provided.

Dr. Badran said that top priority will be given to the construction of the university hospital, which will accommodate 800 beds, and of the medical and engineering faculties.

A total of 172 international consultants were invited to bid for the contract, of which 15 were considered qualified.

Jordan will receive U.S. grant of \$45 million

AMMAN (JNA). — An agreement was signed at the National Planning Council here Tuesday by which the United States government will grant Jordan \$45 million (JD 15 million) to support the 1977 state budget.

The sum will be paid in three equal instalments -- in February, April and August of this year.

The agreement was signed for the Jordanian Government by the President of the National Planning Council, Dr. Hanna Odeh and for the U.S. by the American Ambassador in Amman, Mr. Thomas Pickering.

Queen Alya pays visit to army H.Q.

AMMAN (JNA). — Her Majesty Queen Alya said Tuesday: "Service in the Jordanian armed forces is a great honour and an important duty which we all ought to carry out for our dear homeland." Her Majesty was speaking to a number of women recruits during a visit to the General Army Headquarters.

During the visit the Queen was briefed by Commander-in-Chief Zaid Ibn Shaker on the duties of women soldiers in the various military fields.

Jordanian, Syrian rail committee ends meeting

DAMASCUS (JNA). — The joint Jordanian-Syrian Committee for Railway Affairs ended its meeting here Tuesday. During the meeting the committee discussed steps to be taken to complete economic and technical studies for the building of a broad-gauge rail link between Amman and Damascus.

The Under Secretary at the Ministry of Transport, Mr. Ha-

shem Al Taher, who represented Jordan at the meeting, said the aim of the project is to link Damascus and Amman with the European countries by rail and to facilitate the transportation of goods from Europe to the two countries and vice versa.

It also aims to link the Jordanian port of Aqaba with the Syrian ports to increase transportation between them.

In interview with JNA Genscher expresses optimism for M.E. peace this year

BONN (R). — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said Tuesday he felt chances for a Middle East peace settlement this year were better than ever before.

Prince Hassan opens new branch of Housing Bank

JARASH (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday urged the Jordanians to develop the habit of saving money and ploughing it back for the benefit of the country and its citizens.

Opening a new branch of the Housing Bank at the town of Jarash Tuesday afternoon, Prince Hassan said: "We consider ourselves to be on the threshold of a new and vigorous take-off. We have great hopes of being able to achieve much in the future, and to devote all our energies to reinforcing the Five-Year Development Plan."

The Director General of the Housing Bank, Mr. Zuhair Khouri, reviewed the bank's accomplishments since it was founded. It had financed collective housing projects and granted loans to individual citizens, he stated.

Mr. Khouri said that the bank had already opened 13 working branches and offices, serving most of the country's districts.

Interviewed by the Jordan News Agency (JNA) before a four-day visit to the Arab world, Herr Genscher said member countries of the European Economic Community were ready to do all they could to help achieve a solution.

"I shall also be visiting Israel next month and I hope that what I learn in these two visits can help to reduce the continuing mistrust in the area," Herr Genscher said.

He believed that Jordan had a particularly important role to play in moves towards a peace settlement.

Free zone co. meets in Der'a

DAMASCUS (JNA). — The Administrative Board of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Free Zone Company opened its meeting Tuesday at the company's headquarters in the Syrian border town of Der'a.

A study was prepared for the meeting detailing the search for water and the digging of artesian wells in the area between the Jordanian and Syrian border villages of Jabir and Nassib.

The administrative board of officials also made an on-the-spot visit to the wells that have already been dug in some assigned locations.

The foreign minister said dialogue and cooperation between Europe and the Arab world had been considerably strengthened in the past two years and he expected this process to continue to the benefit of both regions.

"Germany and the southern Mediterranean countries, including Jordan, have traditionally good and close relations, not only politically but also in the economic and cultural fields. Our interdependence is greater today than ever before," Herr Genscher said.

It was announced in Brussels that Herr Genscher will visit Israel from March 16 to 18. Dates of Herr Genscher's Israeli visit were given after the German foreign minister met earlier today in Brussels with his Israeli counterpart Yigal Allon.

Herr Genscher, who earlier was in Brussels for a European Economic Community ministerial meeting, today flew from Bonn to Damascus. He will continue to Amman on Thursday and Cairo on Friday.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:		
U.K. sterling	573.0	578.0
U.S. dollar	333.0	335.0
German mark	138.0	138.4
French franc	67.2	67.5
Swiss franc	132.6	133.0
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.9	38.1
Saudi riyal	94.5	94.7
Lebanese pound	108.5	108.9
Syrian pound	82.0	82.2
Iraqi dinar	940.0	945.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,152	1,155
Egyptian pound	475.0	485.0
Libyan pound	770.0	780.0
UAE dirham	85.4	85.9

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Japan oils its wheels for another economic leap forward

U.S.-USSR scientific exchanges: One of detente's successful areas

TOKYO, (CSM) — Japan once again is beginning to flex its economic muscle, stiffened temporarily by the recent world recession.

The improvement is due largely to strong gains in exports to the U.S. and Western Europe. Japan's former Finance Minister and new Prime Minister, Takeo Fukuda, can also take some credit.

Mr. Fukuda became Finance Minister under former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka in late 1973, shortly before the oil crisis broke out.

With unknowing prescience, he forecast a reduction in the growth rate of the Japanese economy, from an annual rate of 10 per cent or more to a modest growth rate of six to seven per cent.

Little did he realize that within a few months he would be wondering how to boost the Japanese economy up to the desired modest growth rather than how to slow the economy down.

His first priority after the October 1973 oil crisis, however, was to check the wild price rises that followed the crisis. He applied tough demand-management measures, acquiring the nickname "Mr. Austerity" in the process.

In getting out of the recession that followed those measures, he has consistently pursued a cautious line. Mr. Fukuda is concerned more with restraining inflation and putting the economy into sound shape than in pushing rapidly toward recovery.

Mr. Fukuda's cautious policies for dealing with stagflation remained in force throughout 1976 and are likely to be only slightly modified in 1977, even though events have not completely conformed with policy.

The aim for 1976 was a gradual economic rise throughout the year with a moderate increase in fiscal outlays. The policies also sought the revival of natural or cyclical forces to slowly push up the economy without provoking severe inflation. The target was an annual growth figure for fiscal 1976 of 5.6 per cent.

This figure may well have been achieved, but not in the way expected. In the first quarter of 1976 the economy boomed, largely thanks to the sharp increases in exports to the U.S. and Eastern Europe.

JAPAN FACTS

Area: 143,574 square miles (about the size of Montana)

Population: 111,934,000

Capital: Tokyo (Pop. 11,454,000)

Other major cities: Osaka, Yokohama, Nagoya, Kyoto, Kobe, Kitakyushu, Sapporo

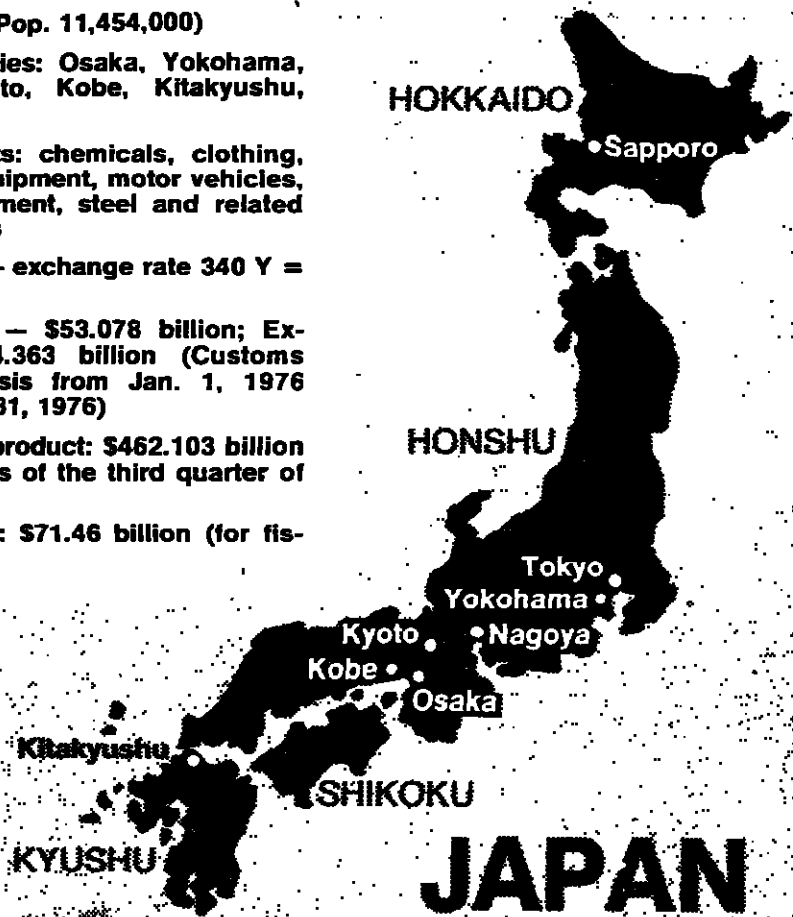
Principal exports: chemicals, clothing, electronic equipment, motor vehicles, optical equipment, steel and related products, toys

Currency: Yen — exchange rate 340 Y = \$1

Trade: Imports — \$53.078 billion; Exports — \$54.363 billion (Customs clearance basis from Jan. 1, 1976 through Oct. 31, 1976)

Gross national product: \$462.103 billion (annualized as of the third quarter of 1976)

National budget: \$71.46 billion (for fiscal 1976)



But since then, the rate of growth has dropped quarter by quarter. The last three months of 1976 may show no growth at all.

The surge in exports was a surprise, regarded as a lucky break by Japanese officials. But the belief grew both at home and abroad that Japan was getting a free ride towards recovery at the expense of its trading partners.

Also, the U.S. charged that Japan was deliberately keeping the yen undervalued. The European Economic Community voiced veiled threats of import restrictions.

Although the rise in exports began to slow down after spring, exports continued to be a powerful factor in sustaining the economy.

Businessmen and government officials held to the hope that domestic demand factors, such as consumer spending, capital outlays and fiscal expenditures, would succeed exports as the driving force of the economy.

But the Lockheed scandal delayed Diet passage of the budget bill and other key fiscal legislation. The delay forced reductions and postponement of numerous construction programmes at a time when these were most needed.

The Lockheed scandal also damaged business confidence. Businessmen worried about the prospects of a coalition government that would be sure to be less pro-business than the Liberal-Democratic Party.

Despite the mini-recession, however, the economy did not perform too badly in 1976.

Industrial production in November was 15.5 per cent higher than in the same month last year. The trade and overall payments balances are in surplus, and business profits are continuing to improve.

Prices still are a problem, however. The Tokyo consumer price index in December increased 10.5 per cent over the year before. Business bankruptcies soared in November to a new high of 1,588.

Despite these and other problems, the Japanese economy still is proving itself a viable entity.

Although some Western observers have described Japan as a "fragile economic superpower," Japan has demonstrated toughness, adaptability and cohesiveness, and has performed notably better than such countries as France, Britain, or Italy.

By David K. Willis
The Christian Science Monitor
News Service

MOSCOW — "Important" data on how changes in underground gases might help predict earthquakes ... research that helps locate sites for vast new power dams ... new work on cleaning up air pollution from power plants ... help in reducing oil spills at sea ... cheap use of maritime research ships.

These are some of the ways (U.S. officials say) the United States benefits from an extensive programme of scientific exchanges with the Soviet Union — particularly in the field of protecting the environment. At present there are some 40 projects in the programme, which is cited in Washington as one of the most successful areas of detente.

But, in interviews with the Christian Science Monitor, U.S. officials here for the fifth annual meeting of the joint U.S.-Soviet Cooperation Committee recently denied that the programme is all a one-way street, as some in the U.S. have feared. (A particular concern to some Americans is Soviet access to U.S. computers and the latter's possible military use.)

"We all breathe the same air and use the same water," commented Russell Train, chief of

the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in an interview. "The Soviet Union occupies a large area of the earth's surface. If it adopts reasonable standards, it can only help everyone. We all share the one globe."

U.S. officials cite not only research data, and the use of Soviet research ships for joint work (such as on ice seals and walrus in the Bering Sea from March to May of last year), but also:

— Hard cash. U.S. air-pollution measuring and monitoring equipment is so far ahead of Soviet equipment that the Soviets are buying it. At a small U.S. display last year, the Russians purchased equipment right off the floor for \$167,000. U.S. officials project follow-up sales at \$2 million over 12 months. And they hope for more sales from a show of water-pollution equipment here next spring.

— Animal and bird protection. Seventy per cent of the snow geese banded by U.S. and Soviet workers on Wrangel Island last year have been spotted after migration to the U.S. A treaty on migratory birds is almost ready for signing, after some delays on the U.S. side aimed at including language that would give the U.S. Interior Department the authority to protect habitats.

Siberian polecats are being used for research in Maryland

to help save the U.S. black-footed ferret. The polecat is very similar to the ferret. Alaskan musk ox are adapting to life in Siberia. U.S. catfish may be the basis of a new food industry in the Soviet Union.

And U.S. naturalists are eager to enlist Soviet help in studying the migration patterns of the peregrine falcon and in preserving both Soviet and U.S. species of wolves.

U.S. officials freely concede that the Soviets gain significantly from the joint projects. Among other things, they get to work with advanced U.S. pollution measuring and monitoring devices, as well as with sophisticated U.S. computers to analyse results.

They gain access to U.S. filters that trap fly ash in the stacks of power plants. And they probably have gained a greater overall awareness of their environment and how to go about protecting it.

The basic cooperation is working fairly well, though there are bureaucratic delays on both sides and difficulties in obtaining needed information. After trying for several years, the U.S. has only just been able to send its first inspection team into the key ore-processing city of Magnitogorsk.

The Soviet side has not yet produced requested basic data on fluorocarbons (many U.S. scientists say such substances,

released by spray cans and utility refrigeration pipes, are depleting the ozone cover of earth), or on emissions from jet aircraft, (apparently, Soviets see some security problems).

Yet U.S. scientists say benefits are clear.

The Soviets have done more detailed work on how deranged levels of the gas radon change before earthquakes occur. The U.S. concentrated on improving assuring instruments and in her fields. Seismologists at Nurek dam in Tadzhikistan (Soviet Central Asia). They are some Soviet theories part of the San Andreas fault and so far they report promising results.

U.S. seismologists say they are fascinated at research collected at the site of world's tallest power dam (Nurek dam in Tadzhikistan Soviet Central Asia). They say that measurements of the effects of small earthquakes accompanying the filling of dam (which is to be more than 900 feet tall) are of immense help in such projects as viewing the Auburn dam in California.

Soviet work on limestone, magnesium, and ammonia "rubbing" devices to clean sulphur dioxide from power plants is watched closely by the U.S. and using Soviet maritime search ships is much cheaper than using expensive (and over) U.S. ships, officials say.

Irish sod peat business turns over a new leaf

By Gerald Schomp

LIMERICK, IRELAND (CSM) — The Republic of Ireland, by depleting one of its natural resources, is actually creating another. The resource is sod peat (turf) and by harvesting it in order to generate one-fourth of the nation's electricity requirements, Ireland is restoring formerly useless bogland to productivity for agricultural purposes.

Although this domestic transformation has been gathering momentum since World War II, it was the recent oil energy crisis and soaring petroleum prices that once again made turf as a peat was put, "the burning topic in Ireland."

M. J. McNeerney, plant manager for Bord na Mona (Turf Board), explains: "The contribution to our economy of over \$60 million at present and \$50 million by 1981 in the saving of imported fuels and the export of horticultural peat does not reflect fully the benefits to the nation of Bord na Mona's activities."

"The industry now employs over 4,500 people. They operate and maintain over 2,000 self-propelled machines, three turf briquette factories (for burning in home fires), two moss peat factories (for horticultural purposes), and supply fuel to seven electricity generating stations."

Actually, turf production is centuries old in Ireland. Millions of poor rural Irish and many city people have trudged into the bogs to "win" turf in the traditional way.

Using a slane, a short-handled spade with a triangular cutting edge, an Irishman stands on a peat bank, strikes away the floating crust of dry moss, and turns over heavy, water-laden sods about the size of bricks. Other members of his family spread the wet sods upon the ground to be turned several times in as many weeks for drying by wind and sun during the warm months of July and August.

In the Irish countryside today, ricks (large stacks) of hand-won turf next to white-washed cottages with thatched roofs are a familiar sight.

To generations of struggling Irish, the boglands seem a curse — a desolate place resembling a bowl full of jelly where, at best, a bare existence might be eked out. Until the last few decades, such individual production represented virtually the only redeeming value of the boglands, which covered about one-seventh of the nation.

Bord na Mona was set up in 1946 as a semi-state body by an act of the Irish Parliament to develop Ireland's peat resources. It operates on a commercial basis and receives no subsidy or tariff protection. The board has established 23 production centres covering 130,000 acres of bog, with an additional 40,000 acres currently being drained for development and harvesting.

Total production for 1974, the last accountable season, was 900,228 tons of machine turf and 2,583,205 tons of milled peat. Profits were up to nearly \$2,400,000, because of increased demand which forced the board to draw heavily on reserve stocks.

As recently as 1959, only 13 per cent of the turf crop was harvested mechanically. Today the figure is 100 per cent, with

a labour force that is one of the nation's largest and also one of its most productive.

The key to machine turf production (turf sods) is the "bagger," a 60-ton Rubie Gold-bagger monstrosity that picks up turf from all layers of the bog, minces it into a specially-blended paste, extrudes it in wet rows 70 feet long, and cuts the ribbon into regular lengths with a line of 200 discs attached to a spreader arm. When the sods are dry, collecting machines load the turf into railway wagons that worm their way into the bogs.

Machine turf has twice the bulk and half the heat content of average quality coal, according to C. M. Murphy, Bord na Mona Sales Manager. Although the process is automated, it is the weather that still determines the overall success of a season. About eight weeks of warm, dry weather are needed to harvest two machine-turf crops with all available machinery operating around the clock.

The production of milled peat for the generation of electricity and for making neat, clean briquettes for home fires requires a different process. "Milled peat" takes the form of crumbs or powder and at

the 55 per cent moisture level has an anhydrous calorific value of about 3,360 BTUs per pound (compared to 12,000 BTUs for steam coal and 18,000 BTUs for fuel oil). For the production of milled peat, the bog is laid out in a series of 50-foot-wide drying fields and the surface of each field is cut into small particles by a milling machine. This machine operates a rotating drum fitted with small spikes which tear up the bog surface to a depth of half an inch.

After a short period the layer of milled peat is harrowed in order to accelerate drying. When it has been air-dried approximately 55 per cent moisture, it is scraped mechanically into ridges along the centre of each drying field. These ridges are then transferred by harvesting machines into central piles, each of which takes the output from 10 drying fields.

The harvesting cycle covers two to three days in good weather. An average of 12 harvests per season is obtained under normal weather conditions, producing an average of about 73 tons per acre. Milled peat is dispatched by light railway either to power

stations where it is used for the production of steam or to factories where it is further processed and compressed into briquettes. During 1974-75 season, a total 2,681,456 tons of milled peat were delivered to power stations, supplying approximately 26 per cent of the nation's electrical power.

What was formerly considered a national liability now turned into an asset, reclamation of the strip boglands takes place under the careful supervision of Bord na Mona scientists. Grass has proved to be the most successful crop — a valuable addition to the grazing lands of the Emerald Isle.

Some depleted bogs are being reforested, and gettable farming and commercial cultivation of ornamental shrubs also look promising.

"When our turf is gone, about 30 years, then the bog will be there for future generations to use," says M. J. McNeerney. "With foresight research, the end of the story marks a new beginning for a large part of rural Ireland."



Machine cuts and stacks moss sods for drying.

DOCTOR ISSA MUSHARBASH

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REQUIRED

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REQUIRED

A villa with a big salon, one dining room, four bedrooms; telephone and central heating are essential.

Please contact Miss Mango, tel. 42649 & 44693 between 9-1 1/2 & 4-6 1/2

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Offered for sale by the method of sealed bids five used cars. Customs duty not paid. Cars are available for inspection at the American Embassy motor pool, opposite the Islamic College, Jabal Amman, during normal office hours.

Bids will be accepted until 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 13, 1977.

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Contact: Tel. 61882

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هكذا صنع القمح

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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nerable. South
NORTH
K 832
543
AQ64
K3
EAST
Q 1075
1072
K9
AQ95
2
UTH
A6
AKQJ98
1073
104
ing:
est North East
ass 1 + Pass
ass 4 + Pass
ass
lead: Six of ♣.

very well to master
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ridge player until
e learned how to
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edge is as much a
erves as a game of

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t jump rebid in his
wever, he decided
ne was unlikely un-
partner could bid
second time, so he
d himself with a
ebid in his six-card
rth's raise to four
as beyond reproach,
y since he knew his
was virtually cer-
ve six hearts.

led a low club. After
dummy's king with
East cashed the
and shifted to a
Declarer drew
in three rounds and
w faced with the
of avoiding two

diamond losers. Technically,
it might be right to take the
diamond finesse. If it loses,
declarer can still get home if

the diamond jack is double-
ton, for it will drop under the
ace and the ten will be
established. If declarer fol-
lows that course, he will be

down one as the cards lie
since he must lose two dia-
mond tricks.

Declarer discarded this
line in favor of one which had

a better chance of revealing
the location of the diamond
king. He crossed to the king
of spades and led a low dia-

mond from dummy. If East
held the jack of diamonds, he
might not realize the im-
portance of going in with
that card, and when the ten

forces the king, two diamond
tricks would be established
in dummy.

There was another com-
bination that would also give

East a problem. If East had
the king of diamonds, he
would have to exhibit great
fortitude to duck smoothly

when a low diamond is un-
expectedly led from the
board.

At the table, East did not

have the poise to play low in
tempo. He hesitated awhile,
thereby giving away the

position, then took his king.
Declarer could then claim
the rest of the tricks for his
contract.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



ICE BREAKER --
Members of the crew of British Royal Navy nuclear-powered Fleet submarine, HMS Sovereign, step into the hostile world of the North Pole during a recent Arctic mission. Sovereign surfaced through 40 cm. of ice at the Pole while on a five-week patrol which included some 10 days operating under the polar ice cap. One of the objects of the mission was to carry out geophysical survey work -- principally plotting the underwater profile of the ice cap to accumulate data for the scientists on board. Before surfacing, a relatively thin patch of ice had to be found which would enable Sovereign to break through into the arctic night.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is not a good day to plan any definite course of action or campaign for many difficulties and delays are likely to occur. Think of better ways to clear the obstacles in the path of your desires.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have responsibilities to meet and want to run away from them, but it is best to carry through conscientiously instead. Use tact with your mate or you get into trouble. Be wary of strangers.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be sure to carry through with that contract you have with another or you can get into much trouble later. A civic affair could be annoying, but handle it well just the same.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Running away from duties ahead of you would only make matters worse in the future. Concentrate on how to solve some of these problems. Be wary of one who has an eye on your assets.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Avoid those expensive pleasures you want to participate in and stay within your budget. Try to please the one you love more and gain more affection.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Do whatever will bring more harmony at home quietly. Try to understand others' views better. A new project you have in mind is not for you, so let it go. Make the evening a happy one with a loved one.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Look for better ways to get errands done. Not a good day to seek advice you need from experts. Use much care in motion of all kinds.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Take no chances where finances are concerned during day or in the evening or you will regret it later. Your adviser is in an unsettled mood today, so don't consult as yet. Take it easy tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Try to control yourself today when you are apt to be in a poor mood and could make some unfortunate mistake. Do not argue at a social function you may attend. Be careful of strangers.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Do not get discouraged in the handling of some problems and you will be able to solve it satisfactorily now. Try to be philosophical in the face of delays and obstacles.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Don't rely on friends today who are under pressure and have no time for you. Don't be demanding where social matters are concerned. Use tact and get right results.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Take care that you do nothing that would make higher-ups criticize you. Pay bills on time and improve credit.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You want to get into new projects but this is not the time to do so, although looking into them is fine. Be patient, show wisdom and courage. Avoid one who is annoying to you.

GRAFFITI
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FREDDIE WOULDN'T BE TEACHER'S PET IF SHE COULD AFFORD A DOG

...HALLO!
IS THIS 67171-2-3-4?
I'D LIKE TO RESERVE
A SPACE FOR AN AD IN
THE JORDAN TIMES...

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE

DENMARK
Emile Bencke

"... but surely at least ONE of them is able to understand you."

THE BETTER HALF By Barnes

"It's a funny thing -- ever since your mother came to visit, the evening news has become sort of blah."

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Use these four Jumbles, to each square, to form any words.

AY
NTH
SEED
YOF

nt answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

Jumbles: AFIRE CROWN KISMET EQUATE
Answer: It takes two to have a row! -- OARS

TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURES

MYSTERY MOVIE:
WHO'S WHO IN NEVERLAND
Quincy investigates two murders committed with poisonous germs stolen from army arsenal.

THE LUCY SHOW:
THE STUNTMAN
Unable to obtain a \$100 advance from her boss to buy a fur coat, Lucy engages herself as a stuntman in a western movie to earn that sum.

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An advertisement in the Jordan Times will be seen by some 10,000 people in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Don't you have anything to say to them?

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PEANUTS

BETTER HALF. By Barnes

Look happy -- it's one of the secretaries from my office."

OUT AND ABOUT

THE CROWN ROTISSERIE
Hotel Jordan Intercontinental. Open daily for Executive Luncheon 1-3 p.m. Special International Buffet on Sundays. Dinner with live music from 7 p.m. to midnight. For reservation please call 41861 ext. 5.

QUICK MEAL
Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabel Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabel Al Luweidh, Hawuz Circle. Tel. 30646. Jabel Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also in Zarqa and Irbid.

CHINESE RESTAURANT
First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabel Amman, near the Ahlyah School or CMS. Tel. 38968. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service - order by phone.

THE DIPLOMAT
First Circle, Jabel Amman. Tel. 25592. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

EL WED STEAKHOUSE
First Wings Hotel, Jabel Al Luweidh. Tel. 22183/4. Choice of THREE set menus daily for lunch, and a la carte. Open 12-3 p.m. and 7-12 p.m. Specialty: steaks.

THE FLINTSTONES

MUTI AND JEFF

APOLOGY

Jordan Times apologises for the non-appearance of the daily crossword. Our stocks have run dry, and in the meantime we're getting our next batch from our suppliers in S. We shall resume publication as soon as possible.

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Indira Gandhi commits herself to democracy in election manifesto

NEW DELHI, Feb. 8, (R). — Mrs. Indira Gandhi today presented her party's manifesto for next month's general elections declaring that stability for India did not mean one person or one party staying in power.

The prime minister, speaking at Congress Party headquarters here, defended the emergency measures she imposed in June, 1975, and pledged absolute commitment to democracy.

She said the Congress Party was not a one-person party. Opposition attacks had made her the focus of attention, but she regarded herself only as "the foremost sevak (servant) of the people."

Meanwhile, Socialist leader Raj Narain, 60, released from jail last night after 20 months in custody without trial, said in a first interview today: "I am ready to fight her again."

Mr. Narain has joined the Janata (People's) Party formed last month after the merger of four non-Communist opposition parties.

Mr. Narain was beaten by Mrs. Gandhi in the 1971 elections in the Rae Bareilly constituency of Uttar Pradesh State. But his charges of corrupt electoral practices by Mrs. Gandhi led to her conviction by an Allahabad High

Court in June, 1975.

Two weeks later, Mrs. Gandhi declared a state of internal emergency and jailed thousands of her opponents, including Mr. Narain -- one of the last to be freed.

The Supreme Court overturned the Allahabad High Court judgement in November, 1975, after parliament had changed the electoral laws.

Mr. Narain said today he had been held in solitary confinement in Hissar jail 160 kms. from here, and lost 14 kgs. in weight. "But I am still as determined as ever," he said.

He told journalists he had never attacked Mrs. Gandhi personally -- only her political personality.

"Today she has no moral or social position in the country. She has only legal sanity," he said. The state of internal emergency was a "national shame."

The Congress Party, in today's 5,000-word manifesto, claimed to be "the only party which can place before the people not only its programme but also its performance for scrutiny."

It said the party motto was "Poverty must go, disparity must diminish and injustice must end."

The elections must provide India with a government strong enough to safeguard the nation's independence and interests, wise enough to preserve its legacy of tolerance and peaceful change and determined enough to carry forward recent gains, the manifesto said.

It said the Congress Party's faith in democracy was "absolute, irrevocable and unshakeable."

Mrs. Gandhi told party workers most countries recognised that the emergency declaration had been necessary. Those who disapproved acknowledged significant Indian progress in the past 18 months, she added.

Her party manifesto said left extremist parties did not believe in parliamentary democracy, and the main opposition on the right drew support from undemocratic elements.

It pledged to press forward with Mrs. Gandhi's 20-point Economic Programme announced after the emergency, and the five-point Social Reform Programme of her younger son, Sanjay.

Mr. Gandhi, 30, whose rise as a major political force has become a key election issue, was not with his mother and cabinet ministers for the release of the manifesto.

Allon warns EEC: Euro-Arab dialogue must steer clear of Arab-Israeli conflict

BRUSSELS, Feb. 8, (R). — Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon today warned the nine Common Market countries not to become involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict when they meet with Arab states' representatives on Thursday.

Mr. Allon told EEC foreign ministers that Israel was aware that the community, through the so-called "Euro-Arab dialogue", was working to assist the economies of the Arab countries.

"However, it is to be stressed that this dialogue should not deal with the problem of the Israel-Arab conflict in the absence of Israel," Mr. Allon said.

"Instead of contributing to the cause of peace and economic welfare of the whole area, this might become a politically dangerous tool which would diminish, not enhance, the role of Europe in the Middle East in various ways," he added.

Ambassadors of Common Market and Arab League countries on Thursday begin a three-day session in Tunis devoted to finding ways for the community to participate in the economic and industrial development of the Arab World.

Mr. Allon and the EEC ministers signed an accord providing for an improvement in the existing trade agreement between Israel and the community. It promotes increased industrial cooperation and eases community investment in Israel.

The ministers also signed a protocol granting Israel an EEC loan of \$33 million for industrial development.

Mr. Allon said that the financial protocol was unsatisfactory and failed to provide an answer to Israel's problems.

British Foreign Secretary Anthony Crosland, speaking on behalf of the community -- which recently signed trade agreements with Egypt, Jordan and Syria -- said that the accords represented a new beginning for EEC-Israeli relations.

They are essentially dynamic and represent a challenge since considerable imagination will be needed as we lay down the practical forms which our cooperation is to take," he said.

Eritreans stage thankyou march for Nimeiri's stand against Ethiopia

KHARTOUM, Feb. 8 (AFP). — Thousands of Eritrean refugees marched through central Khartoum today in a demonstration of appreciation for President Jaffar Nimeiri's statement last week supporting the

Ethiopian province's fight for independence.

The demonstrators, drawn from the estimated 100,000 Eritreans who have sought refuge in Sudan since the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) launched its Arab-backed fight for independence 15 years ago, marched from Hero's Square to the office of the ruling Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU).

Sudanese Interior Minister and Party Assistant Secretary General Maj. Mamun Awad Abu Zeid called the Eritrean military regime a "clique of anarchists."

The Ethiopian people would rid itself of military rule "very soon," Major Abu Zeid said.

At the SSU headquarters, where the Sudanese and ELF flags flew side by side the party's Secretary General Maj. Abu Ali Gasim Muhammad Ibrahim received a memorandum from ELF leaders expressing support for Gen. Nimeiri's stand.

The Eritreans chanted slogans in Arabic including "Nothing less than full independence for Eritrea," "Down with colonialism" and "The Dergue (the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council) is a fascist regime."

Meanwhile the Sudanese News Agency (SUNA) reported the Sudanese National Assembly today expressed "full support" for the Eritrean people "in their just struggle to secure their legitimate right of determining their fate... consistent with Sudan's unshakable stand concerning liberation issues."

Meanwhile South Yemen has become the first Arab country to pledge support for Ethiopia's military rulers after the "coup d'etat" last Thursday in which it is now known that eleven people were killed including head of state Gen. Tefari Bente.

Lieut. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam, First Vice Chairman of the Dergue, saw the South Yemeni Ambassador, Ahmad Nasser here yesterday and received his "congratulations," the Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) said.

In an interview with the Madrid daily ABC, Mr. Hoveyda said: "We have no intention of using atomic weapons and... we have signed and ratified a treaty agreeing not to produce nuclear arms."

He added: "We will be satisfied enough with sophisticated conventional weapons for our defence."

Asked if the Shah wanted to make Iran a world military power, Mr. Hoveyda replied: "Our only objective is to defend ourselves and be sufficiently strong to ward off a powerful aggressor."

Mr. Hoveyda said Iran calculated its petroleum reserves would last for 20 to 25 years.

"We are preparing ourselves for that time by diversifying our economy and setting up industries orientated towards the export market," he said.

Mr. Hoveyda said Iran did not have a problem with Kurdish nationalists "because our Kurdish population, which is the purest in Iran, feels a great loyalty towards the country."

The Iranian premier concluded a two-day official visit to Spain on Saturday and has since been on a private visit to southern Spain.

The Saudi Minister was speaking to reporters after the closed meeting held by the ministers in their capacity as board of directors for the agency.

They agreed to appoint Bahrain's Information Minister Tariq Al Mutairi as General Supervisor of the agency and the director of information of Bahrain as director of the agency, Dr. Yamani added.

The latest situation regarding Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping is that the party Central Committee is reported to have decided in favour of rehabilitating him. But it has not yet decided which posts he will occupy when he makes his second comeback on the political stage, according to various sources here.

Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping was rehabilitated for the first time in 1973 after being sacked during the Cultural Revolution from his job as general secretary of the party.

In addition to Mr. Teng Ken, he has another brother, Mr. Teng Shu-ping, and a sister, Mrs. Teng Hsien-keh.

Mr. Teng Ken has been back in his job at Wuhan for several weeks. Foreign delegations which visited the big industrial city in central China early last month reported his presence among other local officials.

The Chinese official press said that Mr. Teng Ken, Vice Chairman of the Wuhan Municipal Revolutionary Committee, attended a rally on Monday in Wuhan to celebrate the 54th anniversary of the general strike on the Peking-Hankow railway.

His name had not appeared in the official press since the removal of his brother last April from his posts of vice premier, party vice chairman and chief-of-staff of the People's Liberation Army.

Mr. Teng Ken has been back

U.S. vetoes Israel's sale of Kfir jets to Ecuador

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (R).

— The United States has blocked a planned sale by Israel of its Kfir fighter-bombers to Ecuador and is reviewing Ford administration promises to supply the Israelis with sophisticated new weapons, the State Department said yesterday.

State Department spokesman Brown said the U.S. had exercised its veto power over Israel's proposed sale to Ecuador of 24 Kfirs, which contains a number of U.S. parts, because it was "counter to our own policy on the transfer of advanced and sophisticated arms to Latin America."

The United States retains the right to veto arms sales by Israel or other countries if the weapons being sold contain significant U.S. components.

The Kfir, which is based on the French Mirage F-5 fighter-bomber, uses the American General Electric J-79 engines.

Mr. Brown said the United States gave very serious consideration to the Israeli application for approval of the sale but eventually decided against introducing such sophisticated weapons into Latin America.

He also said the State Department was reviewing a decision made in the last days of the Ford administration to supply tanks, artillery, night vision sights and so-called concussion bombs to Israel.

Pentagon documentation on the four weapons systems was forwarded to the State Department last week, Mr. Brown said.

He said the review was of the Carter administration policy of seeking to limit sales of weapons needed for the purchasing country's defence.

Although this review is continuing, the department meanwhile completed its review of aid budgeted to Egypt and other countries by the Ford administration.

Israeli newspapers reported over the weekend that the over administration planned to increase its economic aid to Israel by \$285 million -- out a fifth more than the billion authorized by Mr. Ford.

Asked about the reports, Brown referred to the congressional review and said no decision could be released until new administration's budget goes to Congress for approval.

The latest U.S. actions disclosed as Secretary of State Cyrus Vance met last week with Israeli Ambassador and held a six-session with the envoys of five Arab countries he will in a weeklong Middle East trip.

The trip will take Mr. Vance to Israel, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia.

Iranian Prime Minister Amir Abbas Hoveyda was today quoted as saying Iran had no intention of acquiring nuclear weapons and was concerned only to defend itself with sophisticated conventional arms.

In an interview with the Madrid daily ABC, Mr. Hoveyda said: "We have no intention of using atomic weapons and... we have signed and ratified a treaty agreeing not to produce nuclear arms."

He added: "We will be satisfied enough with sophisticated conventional weapons for our defence."

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ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

Sterling's \$3b "safety net" put into operation

BASEL, Switzerland, Feb. 8 (AFP). — The new \$3,000 million "safety net" for official sterling balances became operational today, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) announced here.

Governors of leading central banks reached agreement last night on final technical details of the scheme, under which a \$3,000 million medium-term credit line is made available to Britain to permit an orderly phasing out of official sterling balances.

The credit facility, which will be operated by the BIS, was arranged by the central bank governors at a meeting here about three weeks ago.

A brief statement issued by BIS this morning said: "The governors of the central banks concerned have now completed negotiations on the \$3,000 million medium-term financing facility related to official sterling balances, on which they reached agreement in principle last month."

The facility will come into operation with effect from today.

The central banks participating in the facility are those of Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, (West) Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States.

Japan, West Europe open ship-building talks

PARIS, Feb. 8, (R). — Japan and West European shipbuilding rivals today began talks aimed at reaching a marketing arrangement and settling an open trade war.

The European Common Market (EC) has already taken protectionist measures against Japanese industrial goods and threatened further retaliation. But today, the Japanese government tabled proposals designed to ease tension.

It suggested tougher controls including floor prices for different types of ships so that Japan's shipyards cannot be accused of dumping vessels on the world market, Japanese officials said.

Also attending the meeting, at the headquarters of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), was a representative of the EEC Commission.

The Japanese dominate the world's ship-building market with more than 90 per cent of orders in the 24-nation OECD area.

Prices declined again Tuesday on the New York stock exchange where the industrial average lost more than four points after a mixed session. Trading was moderate.

Following President Carter's press conference, prices went up in the morning, but analysts said investors seemed to find few surprises in Carter's comments and prices lost ground again in the afternoon.

Declines outnumbered advances at the close by a 729 to 67 margin. Auto shares were hit and General Motors lost 2 points at \$27 7/8. Computers were also lower with Burroughs losing a further 2 1/4 at 69 1/4.

At the close the industrial average shows at 942.24. A loss of 4 1/2 points. Transp at 227.74, a loss of 0.45; utilities at 109.53, a gain of 0.6. 34,040,000 shares changed hands of which 4,090,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market drifted slightly easier Tuesday towards the close after a partial recovery midsession, but many shares were still off the bottom. Dealers said. At 15:00 the F.T. index was down 5.2 at 392.3.

Leading industrials lost around 2p to 6p after falls of up to 2p or so while long dated government stocks held mostly steady after recovering early falls of up to 5/8 point. Shorts were also steady to a fraction harder with treasury 3 pct 1979 higher by around 1-3/8 point on tax considerations.

Cils were led lower by B.P. off 12p after the parliamentary statement regarding a share sale by the government. Banks lost 5p to 8p.

Mining shares continued quietly firm behind the gold bullion price while Australians tended to recover some of their early falls. Imperial Group was firm against the general trend and gained 2p on results after a small early fall while Depla Rue was marked up by around 21p on balance after third quarter figures.

ICI was slightly higher among leaders by the close while Metal Box edged 2p higher and Courtauld was unchanged after moving irregularly.

Price of gold in London closed Tuesday at 134.70.

Yamani: We rejected Qatari suggestion to unify oil prices

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia, Feb. 8 (R). — Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have rejected a Qatari approach to unify the price of oil produced by the 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the English-language daily newspaper Arab News said here yesterday.

It quoted Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani as making the statement following his talks in Riyadh Sunday with his UAE opposite number, Dr. Mansur Said Al Oteibi.

Sheikh Yamani said his talks with the UAE minister reflected an identity of views with regard to oil questions.

The newspaper quoted Sheikh Yamani as saying: "This identity of views is shown in our rejection of the proposals put forward to us by his excellency, Sheikh Abdul Aziz Ibn Khalifeh Al Thani (the Qatari Finance and Petroleum Industry Minister), for a single price (of oil)."

"What he has offered us conflicted with the principles that made us refuse to increase the price of our oil to more than five per cent."

At the OPEC conference in Doha last December the 11 other members decided to raise the price of their oil by 10 per cent from Jan. 1 and further five per cent from July 1.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE limited their increase to five per cent.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz, the current OPEC chairman, has visited OPEC countries to try to heal the differences over the pricing system. He was in Saudi Arabia on Jan. 31.

The reported proposals for a single price have never been officially disclosed.

But the Beirut daily newspaper Al Anwar recently quoted Sheikh Abdul Aziz as saying that he was working on a compromise under which Saudi Arabia and the UAE would raise their prices by 10 per cent and the other 11 members would drop their additional increase of five per cent from July 1.

Oil price split cuts output of Khafji oilfield

KUWAIT, Feb. 8 (R). — The split over oil prices among the world's major producers has cut deeply into output from the Khafji oilfield, jointly owned by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, the newspaper Al Watan reported here today. It said production had dropped to less than one-fifth of its normal level, -- 450,000 to 85,000 barrels a day.

The newspaper said the operating company, Arabian Oil Company (Japan) was having difficulty finding buyers as neither Saudi Arabia nor Kuwait was happy with a compromise selling price of 7.5 per cent above last year's level.

TEHRAN, Feb. 8 (R). — Iran will have an estimated budget deficit of \$7 billion in 1977/78 because of reduced oil sales abroad, the government newspaper Rastakhiz said today. Even if oil-producing countries unify their prices and Iran sells more as a result, the deficit will be \$6 billion, the newspaper said, quoting the government's Planning and Budget Organisation. Iran oil exports dropped by 34.7 per cent in nine days from Jan. 1 when the price of Iranian crude rose by 10 per cent in keeping with a decision in Qatar last December of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (AFP). — Oil exporting countries recorded an overall payments surplus of 3,689 million Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) or about \$4,260 million in the third quarter of last year, the International Monetary Fund said yesterday. This was the highest surplus registered by the oil exporters since the first quarter of 1975, the IMF said in a survey published in its bi-monthly review.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 8 (R). — A senior Vietnamese official said here today his country would welcome foreign investment and give foreign firms guarantees they could operate there for periods ranging from 10 to 15 years. If the government felt that the national interest demanded the state takeover of any investing company, then compensation "on a fair and reasonable basis" would be paid, said Mr. Phan Hien, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, on a visit to India.

PITCAIRN ISLAND, South Pacific, Feb. 8 (AFP). — The some 65 residents of this tiny volcanic island, many of them descendants of mutineers of HMS Bounty, are building a small solar generator to meet their energy needs. The British colonial island, about 2,000 kms. south of Tahiti, has been home for the mutineers and their descendants since 1790, when nine men from the Bounty came ashore with 12 women and six men from Tahiti. Now, faced with an energy crisis since oil tankers quit stopping here, the islanders have turned to fitting out a generator designed by a local engineer. The generator, which will cost \$2,500 dollars, will supply 30 kilowatts of electricity a day for every six to seven-hour period of operation.

LONDON, Feb. 8 (R). — A British company said yesterday it had won contracts worth \$8.6 million to build and renovate racecourses in the Middle East. County Leisure International, a London-based consultancy specialising in designing and running sport and leisure facilities, has signed a \$2.1 million contract for the renovation of Riyadh racecourse, and a \$6.5 million contract to build a new racetrack in Bahrain.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

TEHRAN, Feb. 8 (R). — Lieut. Gen. Amir Hussein Rabbie has appointed Iranian air force commander following the death of a helicopter crash yesterday of Gen. Fazel Tadayyon, it announced today. Gen. Tadayyon, 55, his pilot and a mechanic killed when the helicopter crashed in a snowstorm in Tehrilly northeastern Lavizan area. The general will be buried full military honours tomorrow, the announcement said.

SEVESO, Italy, Feb. 8 (R). — At least 20 children are suffering from a skin disease resulting from last year's poison leak chemical factory here and authorities have closed a second school officials said today. Seveso Health Officer Dr. Costanzo L. said scientific tests at the school showed a dangerous level of dioxin, the chemical which escaped after an explosion at plant on July 11. At least 30 other children were suspected of dioxin poisoning, a disease caused by dioxin poisoning, he added.

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 8 (R). — The Security Council met tonight to take up a complaint by Benin that it was attacked by "imperialists and mercenaries" on Jan. 16. The complaint submitted on Jan. 26, did not identify the attackers, who said to have landed in Cotonou, the capital, aboard a jet aircraft, or indicate where they came from. Benin said they were forced to retreat, leaving behind a considerable amount of weapons and ammunition. Some lives were lost and damaged property it added.

KUWAIT, Feb. 8 (R). — Bahrain Foreign Minister Sheikh Khalid bin Mubarak Al Khalifeh today paid a short visit to Kuwait during which he delivered a message to the Deputy Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, from the Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Khalid bin Mubarak Al Khalifeh. He told reporters the message and he had here today with other Kuwaiti leaders aimed at strengthening brotherly relations between Bahrain and Kuwait and ordinating policies on matters of common interest, including regional and pan-Arab issues.

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (R). — Algerian Foreign Minister Abdel Bouteflika conferred yesterday with King Khalid and Prince Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Riyadh Radio reported. The radio did not give any details of the subjects discussed in the meeting. Saudi Arabia is mediating in Algeria's dispute with Morocco-Mauritania over the former Spanish Sahara.

PRAGUE, Feb. 8 (AFP). — Spokesman for the signers of "Charter 77" human rights manifesto said today they had at the Czechoslovak parliament to rule on the legality of the document. Mr. Jiri Hajek and Mr. Nan Patocka said they had the request in a letter a few days ago to the Federal Assembly, which they contested the right of the federal prosecutor to on the charter's legality. At the beginning of last week, Mr. Hajek and Mr. Patocka were summoned separately to the prosecutor's office where they were told that the manifesto was illegal and warned that they faced legal action if they continued the campaign.

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